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A restoration of one of these lake habitations is placed as a frontispiece to the book ; and while it cannot but be in great measure purely ideal, it at any rate affords a very good view of the probable appearance of one of these singular colonies. It has also been carefully reconsidered by Dr. Keller, and corrected in some minor particulars from the sketch familiar to the public in various previous publications. One very important feature of this excellent contribution to the literature of this subject deserves special commendatory notice. Dr. Keller has abstained from *theory*, preferring the more modest but infinitely more valuable arena of *fact*; hence the student of this branch of inquiry may place implicit trust in what is here presented. The plates, which form no inconsiderable part of the volume, have been entrusted to the hand of Mr. Palmer of Newport, who has very skilfully transferred them from the original Swiss plates. Dr. Keller, in the course of his description, has abstained from offering any opinion as to the race-character of the pile-building population, considering this as at least premature in our present state of knowledge.

After some general account of the peculiarities in these buildings, the author proceeds to describe the settlements at Meilen, Moosseedorf, Robenhausen, Irzenhausen, Wangen, Niederwyl, Wanwyl, Allenbach, Markelfingen, the Ueberlinger See, the Lake of Zug, Nidau, Cortaillod, Auvernier, Estavayer, Concise, Greng, Montellier, Morges, and many others. With the Swiss dwellings he contrasts the Italian remains, and the value of the book is further enhanced by various memoirs on specialities, contributed by other writers. Dr. Oswald Heer gives an excursus on the plants of the lake dwellings ; Professor Rütirmeyer treats of the animals ; and an analysis of the bronze implements is furnished by Professor von Fellenburg. The remains discovered in Bavaria and Mecklenburg also receive attention ; and the Irish and Scotch crannogs are treated of by Mr. John Stuart. A more complete and instructive volume could hardly have been put forth ; and it is greatly to be hoped that it is only a precursor of many such contributions to the interesting science of archaic anthropology.

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## Anthropological News.

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ANTHROPOLOGY IN GERMANY. — Professor Vogt has just terminated a course of thirty lectures on Anthropology, at Cologne, Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle), Essen, Elberfeld, and Crefeld, with signal success. At Aix-la-Chapelle there was some attempt, previous to the first lecture, to interfere

on the part of a mob. and the police had to be called out to disperse the crowd with swords. It is supposed this arose from the opposition of the priests of Rome. At Elberfeld, the Protestants, not to be outdone, followed a similar course; but in both cases science was triumphant. Prof. Vogt is about to lecture at Leipzig, Dresden, Hamburg, Brunswick, Hanover, and Berlin, on the following subjects:—1. Introductory. 2. Cave-bear Period. 3. Reindeer Period. 4. Pile Dwellings. 5. Bronze Age. 6. On the Connexion between Man and the Ape. This series will be concluded about March next.

THE ANNUAL RE-ELECTION OF OFFICERS for the Paris Anthropological Society took place on the 5th of December last, when the following gentlemen were elected to the following offices:—President, M. Bertrand; Vice-Presidents, MM. Lartet and Gaussin; General Secretary, M. Broca; Assistant General Secretary, M. Dally; Annual Secretaries, MM. Letonneau and Ranke; Curator, M. Pratt; Keeper of Archives, M. Lemer cier; Treasurer, M. Bertillon; Publication Committee, MM. Alix, Lagneau and Simonot.

INDIAN NEWS.—We learn, through Dr. Charnock, that a distinguished Fellow of the Society, Dr. Leitner, of Lahore, has in the press a work in four volumes, entitled *The Results of a Tour in Dardistan, Little Tibet, Kashmir, Ladak, Rukshu, Zanskar, and Lahul*. Vol. 1 will contain the language and races of Dardistan, discovered by the author when sent on a linguistic mission by the Punjab Government, to Kashmir and Chilas in 1866.

Dr. Exton of Graham's Town is about to go on an anthropological tour to investigate the races south of the Zambesi.

In the *Staats Courant* of the South African Republic of 4th September, appears a Government notice and letter from the Landdrost of Lydenburg, notifying that a white family, consisting of a man and wife and two young children, have been brought out and given up to a Commandant, P. J. Coetser, by the Kafir chief Litonga, successor to the late Chief Umzwaas. The man and wife appear, according to the evidence of the Kafirs, to be the only survivors of twenty-seven families, (being a portion of the *trek* known as the Triegaard's trek), and of which none ever returned, they having been murdered by the natives in the Manekosch land. The man has been among the Knopnose Kafirs from his second year, and later with the Kaal Kafirs, and bears the Kafir name of T'Sjaka. Both man and wife are said to be in their manner and habits just like the Kaal Kafirs—only in colour white. Subscriptions are received by the Transvaal Government for the support, religious instruction, and education of these interesting people. Triegaardt, we are given to understand, trekked from "De Plaat," near Baviaan's River, Cradock district, in the Cape colony, about the year 1834, and was accompanied by one Bam, J. Pretorius, and several other families. These people, it is alleged, set out with the mad project of reaching Jerusalem, or the Holy Land, through the interior of Africa. Towards the end of 1835, a person now resident here, who followed the party with the hope of collecting money, some Rds. 32,000 due by certain of them, came across traces of them about the latitude of Delagoa Bay. Here he found they had quarrelled, and separated into two parties, the one proceeded to Delagoa Bay, the other going northwards into the interior. Two or three survivors of those who went to Delagoa Bay, arrived ultimately in Natal by sea, the remainder having died from fever. Those who went northwards are said to have been murdered by a commando

of Kafirs from Moselekatse. But the history of the wanderings of these unfortunate and misguided men has ever since been shrouded in mystery. They left the colony of the Cape anathematizing the British Government, and caring little where they went, so long as they escaped from its (to them) hateful and oppressive rule! Some say that these people now delivered up, are more probably the survivors of another party, known as the Liebenbergs, likewise murdered by Kafirs, but at a later period. Probably inquiries will now be made, which may result in more certain information as to their name and parentage being ascertained.

MEN-APES.—M. de Quatrefages, on presenting to the Academy a work of M. Vogt, entitled *Memoir on the Microcephali, or Men-Apes*, calls attention to the following points: 1. That the result of the author's researches would be to modify, at least on certain points, some of the conclusions at which M. Vogt's predecessors had arrived—Gratiolet, amongst others. In the comparison of the human brain and the simian brain, due regard had not been paid to the modification of the simian type in the New World. 2. That from Darwin's point of view, two creatures belonging to types originally different might trace their descent from one or several common ancestors; but one could not have descended from the other. M. Quatrefages also perceives an essential difference of type in the fact that "man is a walking animal, and walks on the hinder members"; whilst all apes are climbing animals. He therefore hopes "that the world will give up the notion of finding any kind of ape the ancestor of man." This idea, scientifically incapable of proof, is particularly so when considered from the Darwinian stand-point. —*British Medical Journal*.

THE AISSA HOUHA ARABS.—Among the anthropological phenomena of the day are certainly to be included the Algerian Arabs, recently exhibiting in London. They are seven in number, and their performances consist of very singular feats indeed—some indeed, never witnessed in Europe before. After, by rude music, exciting themselves to a pitch of madness, one of them, after an uncouth dance, swallows cactus leaves, stands on the blade of a sword, and bites off the head and tail of a serpent, which he swallows, really or apparently; another of the party swallows nails and stones; a third has a rope tied round his waist, and seven or eight men pull vigorously at the ends; another forces his eye out of the socket with an instrument; and finally, a negro, after swallowing lighted paper, places a live coal in the back of his mouth for the spectators to light their cigars at. Our contemporary, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"This entertainment is simply filthy and repulsive to the ordinary spectator, but it offers more than one interesting problem to the student of anthropology. Making allowance for a good deal of pretence and trickery in the performance of the feats, a good deal may be explained by natural causes. For instance, the cuticle of the African is by nature of a horny character; we have frequently enough seen negroes take up in their fingers red hot coals to light their pipes from, without apparently suffering any pain. Such being the normal condition of the skin, it might be prepared into a kind of hide which shall resist not only the fire but the sword. Whether the skin inside the mouth possesses any peculiarity in the African we shall not pretend to say. Again, Nott and Gliddon, in 'Types of Mankind,' advocate the theory that each human type resembles in character and personal appearance the other animals which inhabit its peculiar region. Thus the Esquimaux resembles the White bear, the Mongol resembles the

wolf, and the negro resembles the ape—which justifies slavery. We have no doubt that these ingenious Southerners would point to the long-necked Arab, who digests stone, glass, and nails with ostrich-like facility, as an additional proof that their fantastic theory is the correct one. But as to the gouging business we must confess that we can offer no explanation, even of the most unreasonable kind, and we hope that some oculist will deign to give his attention to the mystery.”

A HUMAN SKULL has been recently discovered in California, at the depth of 130 feet in the pliocene, contemporary with the rhinosceros, the camel (or a species allied to it) and the fossil horse, in an antiquity far beyond that of the flint makers of Abbeville and Amiens, and outreaching all human estimates of time. The following is a summary of the facts:—“A human skull was found in a shaft sunk on a mining claim at Altaville, near Angelo, Calaverus County, California, by a Mr. James Matson. Mr. Matson states that it was found at a depth of about 130 feet, in a bed of gravel five feet in thickness, above which are four beds of consolidated volcanic ash, locally known as ‘lava.’ These volcanic beds are separated from each other by layers of gravel, described thus :

1. Black lava	...	...	...	40 feet
2. Gravel	...	...	...	3 feet
3. Light lava	...	...	...	30 feet
4. Gravel	...	...	...	5 feet
5. Light lava	...	...	...	15 feet
6. Gravel	...	...	...	25 feet
7. Dark brown lava	...	...	...	9 feet
8. Gravel	...	...	...	5 feet
9. Red lava	...	...	...	4 feet
10. Red gravel	...	...	...	17 feet
Total				153 feet

The skull was found in bed No. 8, just above the lower stratum of lava. It was covered, and partly encrusted with stony matter. The portions preserved are the frontal bone, the nasal bone, the superior maxillary bone of the right side, the malar bones, a part of the temporal bone of the left side, with the mastoid process, the zygomatic process, and the whole of the orbits of both eyes. The base of the skull is embedded in a mass of bone-breccia, and small pebbles of volcanic rock, encrusted with a thin layer of carbonate of lime. It is now deposited in the office of the State Geological Survey. To the most superficial eye it has a remarkable resemblance to the skull of the Digger Indian; the same rather elevated frontal region and yet large cerebellum, making the animal organs prominent, though showing no marked deficiency in the intellectual process; the facial angle fair, the same width between the eyes and overhanging process over them. The most remarkable feature of the skull was the great thickness of its bone covering; otherwise it was by no means a low or degenerated type. The facts in regard to the discovery of the skull, as stated above, were given in a paper by Professor J. D. Whitney, read before the California Academy of Sciences. He states, however, that he purposes visiting the locality itself, and seeing the exact place in which this interesting relic was discovered.

It is stated by the Sydney papers, on the authority of letters from Fiji, that the Rev. Mr. Baker, Wesleyan missionary at Novora, with a native catechist and his students, have been murdered by a tribe of cannibals. Mrs. Baker and family had arrived at Sydney.

MASSACRES IN THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS.—A report has reached Liverpool from Mr. Barge, chief officer of the ship *Assam Valley*, recently arrived at Akyab from Bombay, that on the voyage the ship called at the little Andaman island, and that the captain, second officer, carpenter, and five of the crew went on shore to cut spars. Those who remained on board the ship saw them surrounded in a short time by a large crowd of islanders, who are notorious for their savage and brutal propensities. The ship lay off the island for three days, but no human being except the natives could be seen, and ultimately Mr. Barge thought that the most discreet plan would be to sail for the nearest port and give information. The vessel is owned by a Liverpool firm, and managed by Messrs. Moran, Galloway and Co., of Liverpool. About ten months ago six men belonging to an American barque went ashore on the same island and were murdered.

ANCIENT ART IN PERU.—The discoveries in archaic anthropology bid fair to prove fertile beyond the anticipations of all. It is now affirmed that flint arrow-heads and other primitive weapons have been found in such relation to the bones of the mastodon as to imply that the animals perished by the hand of man. We have now to add some new discoveries to the list. In the guano islands of Peru, far below the guano deposits, many objects of ancient art have been discovered as the deposits have been removed. The formation of these deposits is exceedingly slow, and the guano has not perceptibly decreased in quantity for the last three centuries. It is almost impossible to compute the area at which the formation of these deposits began. Many interesting objects have been recently discovered: one is a wooden idol, about one foot high, representing a squatting female, with the legs crossed and the hands placed together across the breast. The ears are bored, and the lobes widely distended with ornaments, such as gave to a certain class of the ancient Peruvians the name of Orejones or Big-Ears. It was found at great depth, firmly imbedded in the guano of the Lobas Islands, with the salts of which it is so completely saturated that it has very nearly the specific gravity of marble. Other objects, formed of thin plates of silver, and apparently struck out by dies, have been found in the Chinca Islands, at a depth of thirty-two feet, representing fishes still inhabiting Peruvian waters. Captain Juan Pardo, an Italian, also discovered near these objects the body of a female, the head lying at a short distance off. The breast and ribs were covered with thin sheets of gold. Unfortunately this was not preserved.

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